AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently Amended) A chewing gum pharmaceutical composition comprising:
 - a core comprising a first formulation, which contains an active compound selected from 2-[4-(diphenylmethyl)-1-piperazinyl]-acetic acids and their amides having the general formula I

Formula I

wherein

R₁ is a -COOH group or a -CONH₂ group, and

X₁ and X₂, taken separately, each represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a straight-chain or branched C₁-C₄ alkoxy group or a trifluoromethyl group as well as their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, geometrical isomers, enantiomers, diastereomers and mixtures thereof, and which first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 300 in a molar ratio between the polyol and active compound of formula I above 10, and

additionally containing a gum base; and

- a coating comprising a second formulation, which contains one or more solid polyol(s) with a molecular weight of less than 3000 and is free of a compound of formula I, wherein a polyol in the second formulation contains a first polyol which is a polysaccharide and wherein the second formulation contains a second polyol selected from the group consisting of mannitol, sorbitol and xylitol in an amount sufficient to improve the palatability of the pharmaceutical composition.

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- 2. (Original) A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 10, with the exception of lactose.
- 3. (Original) A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 300 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 5.
- 4. (Cancelled)
- 6. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 5, with the exception of lactose.
- 6. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950, with the exception of lactose.
- 7. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 1 wherein the formulations are prepared in the form of powders, granules, solutions or suspensions.
- 8. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 1 wherein a polyol in the second formulation is mannitol.
- 9. (Cancelled)

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- 10. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 1 wherein at least one of the formulations further contains an alkalinizing agent.
- 11. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 10 wherein the alkalinizing agent is sodium citrate.
- 12. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation further contains one or more excipients selected from cyclodextrins, colloidal anhydrous silica, microcristalline cellulose, magnesium stearate, flavors or colorants.
- 13. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 1 wherein the first formulation further contains non-polyol sweetening agents such as accountable K, aspartame, saccharine, saccharine sodium or cyclamate.
- 14. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 1 wherein the active compound in the first formulation is cetirizine dihydrochloride, levocetirizine dihydrochloride or efletirizine dihydrochloride.

15-22. (Cancelled)

- 23. (Currently Amended) A chewing gum pharmaceutical composition comprising:
 - a coating comprising a first formulation, which contains an active compound selected from 2-[4-(diphenylmethyl)-1-piperazinyl]-acetic acids and their amides having the general formula I

Formula I

$$X_1$$
 $CH-N$
 $N-CH_2-CH_2-O-CH_2-R_1$
 X_2

wherein

R₁ is a -COOH group or a -CONH₂ group, and

- X₁ and X₂, taken separately, each represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a straight-chain or branched C₁-C₄ alkoxy group or a trifluoromethyl group as well as their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, geometrical isomers, enantiomers, diastereomers and mixtures thereof, and which first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 300 in a molar ratio between the polyol and active compound of formula I above 10; and
- a core comprising a second formulation, which contains one or more solid polyol(s) with a molecular weight of less than 3000 and is free of a compound of formula I, wherein a polyol in the second formulation contains a first polyol which is a polysaccharide, wherein the second formulation contains a second polyol selected from the group consisting of mannitol, sorbitol and xylitol in an amount sufficient to improve the palatability of the pharmaceutical composition, and additionally containing a gum base.
- 24. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 23 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 10, with the exception of lactose.

- 25. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 23 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 300 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 5.
- 26. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 23 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950 in a molar ratio between polyol and active compound of formula I above 5, with the exception of lactose.
- 27. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 23 wherein the first formulation does not contain polyols having a molecular weight of less than 950, with the exception of lactose.
- **28.** (**Previously presented**) A composition according to claim 23 wherein the formulations are prepared in the form of powders, granules, solutions or suspensions.
- **29.** (**Previously Presented**) A composition according to claim 23 wherein a polyol in the second formulation is mannitol.
- 30. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 23 wherein at least one of the formulations further contains an alkalinizing agent.
- 31. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 30 wherein the alkalinizing agent is sodium citrate.
- 32. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 23 wherein the first formulation further contains one or more excipients selected from cyclodextrins, colloidal anhydrous silica, microcristalline cellulose, magnesium stearate, flavors or colorants.

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- 33. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 23 wherein the first formulation further contains non-polyol sweetening agents such as accountable K, aspartame, saccharine, saccharine sodium or cyclamate.
- 34. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 23 wherein the active compound in the first formulation is cetirizine dihydrochloride, levocetirizine dihydrochloride or efletirizine dihydrochloride.
- 35. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 12 wherein the first formulation further contains a cyclodextrin.
- **36.** (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 35 wherein the cyclodextrin is beta cyclodextrin.
- 37. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 32 wherein the first formulation further contains a cyclodextrin.
- **38.** (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 37 wherein the cyclodextrin is beta cyclodextrin.